

HCS HB 1119 -- IN-HOME SERVICE PROVIDERS

SPONSOR: Smith (163)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill modifies the laws regarding background check requirements of in-home service providers and personal care attendants. Providers will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor for hiring persons having a disqualifying factor as outlined in the bill, is listed on the Department of Health and Senior Services employee disqualification list, been found guilty, plead guilty or nolo contendere to several felony offenses as outlined in the bill, or has a finding in the family care safety registry or the child abuse and neglect registry.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will fix an issue where in-home service providers are having trouble hiring employees because current statute requires that any result on a background check must be given a special waiver, and many results are for minor offenses unrelated to security and care, like traffic violations. This can cause a delay in hiring new employees of 10 or more weeks.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Smith; Missouri Alliance For Home Care; Elisa Pellham; Missouri Council for In-Home Services; Oxford Health Care; Phoenix Home Care; and Wayne Lee.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.